



# HOLY FAMILY HERALD

3000-35-15

September, 2021

School Theme, 2021-2022— Holy Spirit, Guide Us

## Principal's Message



55 Wann Road  
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5X4  
667 - 3500

<http://hfe.yukonschools.ca/>

### SCHOOL HOURS

\*Staff Supervisors go on duty at **8:15am** (Students dropped off before **8:15 am** are not supervised on the playground.)

### BELL TIMES

- 8:40 am** First Bell
- 8:45 am** CLASSES BEGIN
- 10:00 am** Recess (K/1, 4/5)
- 10:15 am** Recess (2/3, 6/7)
- 11:35 am** Recess (K/1, 4/5)  
Lunch (2/3, 6/7)
- 12:00pm** Recess (2/3, 6/7)  
Lunch (K/1, 4/5)
- 12:25 pm** First Afternoon Bell  
CLASSES BEGIN
- 3:05 pm** Dismissal

Welcome ☺

*I respectfully acknowledge that I live and work within the traditional territory of the people of Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council.*

It is with great joy that I join you in kicking off the 2021-22 school year. The last 18 months have been challenging (to say the very least!) but it is with hope and anticipation that we look towards the next 10 months. We are officially in “recovery” mode—heading back towards “normal” and we are thrilled to be safely offering in-person learning.

The feeling of family and connection that flows through this school community is very special. I vow to uphold this legacy by loving your children and supporting our staff in providing all students excellent opportunities for learning and growing . Please don't hesitate to introduce yourself and thank you for all you do for our school.

Maria Gray

### Catholic Church Weekend Masses

#### Sacred Heart Cathedral

Saturdays, 5pm  
Sundays, 9am, 10:30am,  
7pm

#### Our Lady of Victory

Saturdays, 7pm  
Sundays, 10:15 am

### A Student's Prayer at the Beginning of School Year

We thank you, Creator,  
for everything that is new and beautiful,  
for everything which holds promise and brings us joy.

Bless us as we start this new year with our friends and educators;  
Help us to make the most of every chance we have to start afresh.

May we show love to one another and to all.

Help us to learn and to work together.

May the new beginning of this school year remind us that you give us chances to start over again and again.

# Holy Family Staff for 2021 - 2022

Additions to staff and staff position changes in assignments are bold:

Principal	<b>Maria Gray</b>
Vice Principal and Counsellor	Patti Oxford
Kindergarten	Nicole Schoeneberg and Kelly Sanford
K/1	Vanessa Stitt
Grade 1	Julie Todd
Grade 2	Lionel Colaci
Grade 3	Jenny Dahl
Grade 4	<b>Gina Alaric</b>
Grade 5	<b>Jerome Quivy</b>
Grade 6	Amelia Andrews
Grade 7	<b>Corrie Lalonde</b>
PE/Library	Joe Morrison
French/Library	Kristy Reid
LAT and Counsellor	Don Fedus
Music/LAT	Jerry Woolridge
Reading Recovery	Kelly Sanford
LAT	<b>Christina Snider</b>
LAT	<b>Nicole Schoeneberg</b>
EA	Tirza Spencer
EA	Atlin Shopland
EA	Terrie Forrest
EA	<b>Jasmin James</b>
EA	<b>Desiree Jay</b>
EA	<b>Leah Green</b>
EA	<b>David Skelton</b>
Religious Ed	Shannon Cooper
Administrative Assistant	Debra Burgess
Library Clerk	Kathy Mercer
Custodian	Vincente Acosta and <b>Jose Salgado</b>

## PARENTS AND GUESTS

Welcome to Holy Family Elementary School!

We ask that any time you come into the school (for an event, to drop off/pick up a child, etc.) **you use the front door entrance, sanitize your hands, and check in at the office.**

Your child's safety is important to us.

Thank you for your cooperation!

## Parents/guardians:

**There is no supervision for your child/ren before 8:15am. Please do not drop them off before then.**

**Thanks!**

## LABELS

Parents, please label all of your children's outdoor clothes (**MASKS**, coats, boots, hats, mittens, etc). Less clothes will be in the lost and found if we know who they belong to.

## Parent Items

### PHOTOS OF STUDENTS:

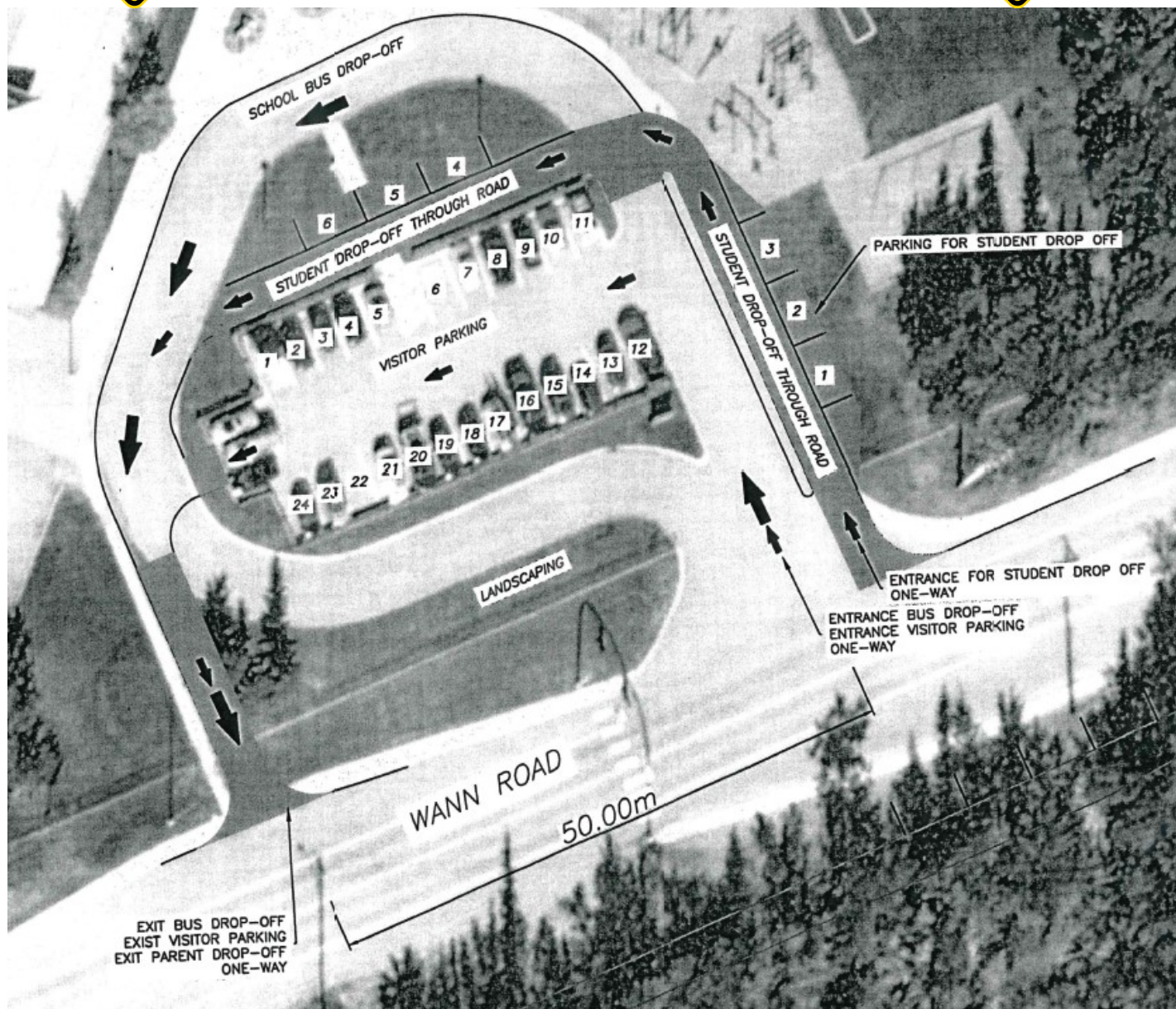
From time to time, our staff or media photographers take photos of our students who are involved in school activities. These may be displayed in the school, in our handbook or published in the local media. Forms for media permission will be sent home in the school package. Please make sure you fill out both sides of this permission form. If you have any questions or concerns with your child's photo being used in this way, please contact the principal, Ms.Gray at the school.

### LATES AND ABSCENCES

We have begun a new school year and we would like to remind parents/guardians of the importance of students coming to school on time every day. **If your child does arrive late please remind them to use the front door and check in with the school office; the side doors are kept locked for your children's safety. Please phone the school if your child will be absent.**



# Parking Lot Update



Operation-Get Children Off of Wann Road- is in full effect!

We are so pleased to have a new parking/drop off area for our students and a new staff parking lot in the back. Please **DO NOT PARK ON WANN ROAD**. It limits visibility for busses and vehicles exiting the drop off and parking lot. Instead, use the shiny new visitor parking space or the drop off loop. Please use the designated crosswalks to walk in and out of the parking lot. Students will not be sent into the parking lot. Please get out of your vehicle to pick them up on the playground after school.

A huge thank you to our school council for advocating for the safety of our students, and another huge thank you to families who have been patient in the process of finishing the parking lot.



# From the Ground Up Fundraiser



Holy Family students will be continuing with the "From the Ground Up" fundraising event. Students will be selling boxes of fresh, local produce. Holy Family will receive a portion of the money from these sales and money raised will fund positive and healthy programming at the school.

Orders forms will go out on August 30 and are due back into the school by Monday, September 27. The pick-up date is October 14 between 3 and 6pm (gym). For more information, please contact Vanessa Stitt, Tirza Spencer or Ms Burgess at the school.

## School Council News

Welcome back! A special welcome to our new principal Ms. Gray. We are looking forward to working with our enthusiastic admin team of Ms. Gray and Mrs. Oxford!

Our first school council meeting is Monday, Sept 13 at 6:30 PM in the school library. Everyone is welcome to attend.

School Council would like to thank Mary Ellen O'Brien for her dedication to council the past 3 years. Mary Ellen is a passionate advocate for youth mental wellness and we will miss her thoughtfulness and enthusiasm. We are pleased that our secretary-treasurer, Erin Spiewak, has agreed to assume the role of a regular council member.

Last spring, school council won an 'Every Student, Every Day' grant to improve the sensory room at Holy Family! We will be working with Mrs. Oxford and her team on this project in the coming months. School council has also donated a bin of playground equipment to give kids more options during recess to stay active and regulated during their school day.

If you have questions, concerns or ideas to pass along to council, please contact us via email [hfes.school.council@gmail.com](mailto:hfes.school.council@gmail.com) or our Facebook page.

Gina Anderson	<a href="mailto:yukonergina@gmail.com">yukonergina@gmail.com</a>
Amy Fry	<a href="mailto:amyflinn@hotmail.com">amyflinn@hotmail.com</a>
Myriam Lafrance	<a href="mailto:lafrance.myriam@hotmail.com">lafrance.myriam@hotmail.com</a>
Erin Spiewak	<a href="mailto:erinspiewak@gmail.com">erinspiewak@gmail.com</a>
John Williams	<a href="mailto:john.williams@atco.com">john.williams@atco.com</a>

### Peanut Alert!

At Holy Family this year as in past years we have children with severe nut/peanut and other food allergies. We ask all students to refrain from bringing in peanuts, snacks containing peanut products and peanut butter sandwiches to school and eating them at lunch or on the playground. We know this will cause some concern for parents but we have to be conscious of every student's safety and wellbeing. Please keep this Peanut/Nut Policy in mind when buying or baking products for student consumption.



## Home/School Communication

Each teacher/student will be using some form of regular communication. Please read these and feel free to write comments. We will again be using a Catholic agenda for most classes at Holy Family.

**Kindergarten:** Planners go home daily—please check the pocket for notes. A monthly newsletter will go home at the beginning of each month.

**K/1.** Daily envelopes are used. There will be a monthly newsletter and emails as well.

**Grade 1:** A newsletter is sent home every week. We will also have a Home Reading Program. (No agenda is required). Don't forget to check out the blog!

**Grade 2:** Students will use their day planner/agenda to record important activities. Parents can view the class website at <https://lionelcolaci.weebly.com/>. Possible use of FreshGrade in the future.

**Grade 3:** Communication is written in the day planner/agenda at the end of each day, with information about class and school activities to be shared at home. A monthly newsletter will go home.

**Grade 4:** Daily communication in the day planner/agenda will consist of a record of their homework and daily reminders. This is also a communication book between the teacher and home, so please feel free to write notes, comments or concerns.

**Grade 5:** The day planner/agenda is used for listing homework assignments and reminders on a daily basis. This is also a communication book between the teacher and home so please feel free to write notes, comments or concerns. Use of Fresh Grade.

**Grade 6:** Daily Agendas are used for notes home and daily assignments. There will be monthly newsletters, and email can be used for communication.

**Grade 7:** To foster greater personal responsibility and independence in preparation for high school, students are expected to fill out their daily planner from the homework board and to record due dates. There will be monthly newsletters and emails used for communication.

### TIS THE SEASON

Please be aware that with every new school year, viruses, "bugs" and school related illnesses happen. Please monitor your child/ren and notify the office if your child is infectious. It's also really important to keep them at home until they are better.

### PARENT HANDBOOK

A student/parent handbook is included in the front of student agendas. School policies and helpful information are included in the insert.

### INDOOR SHOES

Please ensure that your child/ren are equipped with indoor shoes (NO BLACK SOLES) to be used IN THE GYM AND INDOORS ONLY at the school. Outdoor shoes are removed at the door, which is important in helping our custodians to keep our school clean

### FORMS

Packages requesting consent and contact information will be sent home with all students that will include all the forms and fees required for the 2021-2022 school year. It is important that you read these carefully and fill out all information and return them to the school. Please note that there will also be forms and fees for both agendas (payable to Holy Family) and a religious education fee (payable to Holy Family Elementary School).

## School Bus Changes

The school bus schedules are still changing. Please check the website for updates.

<https://yukon.ca/en/school-bus-schedules>



## VACCINATIONS

Once again, Flu vaccine will be available in late October/November at the Whitehorse Health Centre, and locations around town, to reduce the risk of severe flu. Be Wise.....Immunize!

This fall, we would like to encourage all kindergarten children who were not able to come to the Health Fair in May, **to make sure all kindergarten children are up to date with their Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis-Polio vaccine (Tdap-IPV) and Measles-Mumps-Rubella-Varicella(Chickenpox) vaccine (MMRV).**

Appointments can be made at Whitehorse Health Centre, 667-8865.

### HPV 9 FOR GRADE 6

We will be offering HPV9 vaccine for all Grade 6 students and information packages and consents have been sent home. Signed consents should be sent to the office immediately. Vaccination schedules are to be determined.

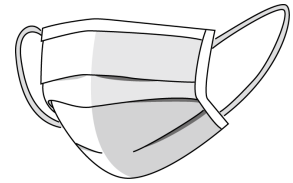
### Kindergarten

We will be offering **vision screening to the kindergarten students later in the school year.** If there is an immediate concern about your student's vision, please contact your optometrist or doctor. Yukon Hearing Services will also be coming to the schools to conduct hearing and impedance (middle ear) screening on kindergarten children who did not attend the Health Fair or need rescreening.

## MASKS:

At HFES we are following the Chief Medical Officer of Health recommendations for wearing non-medical masks (and for everything else Covid-related) **Masks are mandatory for all k-7 students when:**

- Physical distancing cannot be maintained
- In hallways/more crowded areas
- On the bus
- When working in close proximity to an adult
- In music and library



## REDUCE THE SPREAD OF VIRUSES WASH YOUR HANDS



1

Wet hands with warm water



2

Apply soap



3

For at least 20 seconds, make sure to wash



4

Rinse well



5

Dry hands well with paper towel



6

Turn off taps using paper towel



palm and back of each hand



between fingers



under nails



thumbs

## HANDWASHING/ SANTIZING

As you know, we are putting in great effort to teach proper handwashing and sanitizing at school to reduce the spread of Covid 19. There are a few things you can do to help.

- Practice good hand hygiene at home
- Wash you child's reusable mask often (if they have one)
- Wash your child's water bottle often
- Remember to sanitize you hands if/when you enter the school.



## HFES Adapted Routines/Schedule

### Arrival:

- Students can be *dropped off between 8:15 and 8:40.*
- Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 3 students play on the Primary Playground until the bell rings at 8:40.
- Grade 4, 5, 6, and 7 students play on the Intermediate Playground until the bell rings at 8:40.
- At the bell, students will line up at their entry doors

<b>Entry:</b>	<b>Primary Door (primary playground side)</b>	Kindergarten (Sanford/Schoeneberg), Grade 1, Grade 2
	<b>Front Door (main entrance)</b>	K/1(Stitt), Grade 3
	<b>Back Door</b>	Grade 4, Grade 5
	<b>Intermediate Door (intermediate playground side)</b>	Grade 6, Grade 7

### Staggered Recess:

<b>10:00-10:15</b>	Grade K and 1 – Primary Side Grade 4 and 5 – Intermediate side
<b>10:015– 10:30</b>	Grade 2 and 3 – Primary Side Grade 6 and 7 – Intermediate Side

### Staggered Lunch:

<b>11:35 -12:00</b>	Grade K, 1, 4 and 5 Outside Recess
<b>11:35-12:00</b>	Grade 2, 3, 6, and 7 Inside Lunch
<b>12:00-12:25</b>	Grade K, 1, 4, and 5 Inside Lunch
<b>12:00-12:25</b>	Grade 2, 3, 6 and 7 Outside Recess

### Dismissal:

- Bus students line up in their bus lines on the Intermediate playground side
- Walking and pick up students leave on the Primary playground side
- Students must be picked up by 3:30

### Additional Notes:

1. *Parents/Caregivers are allowed to be outdoors on the primary side to pick up and drop off their kids. We ask that you don't stick around too long after school, and that you maintain 6 feet distance from others.*
2. *Parents are not to enter the school unless necessary. If it is necessary, they must enter through the front doors, sanitize their hands, and check in at the front office.*
3. *Parents are expected to monitor their children for symptoms every morning and keep them home if they are unwell.*
4. *There is a Health room set up across from the first aid room in the office. Kids who are unwell have to wait in the health room to be picked up.*
5. *Students will be asked to wear a mask when physical distancing cannot happen and on the bus.*

## COVID-19 symptoms and testing: Can your child go to school or return to regular activities?

This guidance is for school-aged children 6 years and older who have not completed a COVID-19 immunization series 14 days before they show any symptoms.

**This guidance does not apply** if your child is severely immunocompromised or has a complex medical history.

**Talk to your child every day to see if they have any new or worsening symptoms.**

COVID-19 is a disease that can be prevented through vaccination, but this vaccine is not yet available for younger children. People who are unvaccinated are more likely to become sick from the COVID-19 virus.



### **RED** symptoms

- Cough
- Fever
- Chills
- Loss of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

### **YELLOW** symptoms

- Headache
- Runny nose or congestion
- Sore throat
- Acute or intense fatigue
- Generalized muscle aches (not related to physical exertion)
- Significant loss of appetite
- Nausea or vomiting

### Your child has **NO** symptoms

Your child can go to school and return to regular activities.

Continue to encourage them to follow the [Safe 6](#).

If your child has **one or more RED or YELLOW** symptoms, **get your child tested**.

Your child should self-isolate and cannot attend school or take part in regular activities until they've been tested and the result is negative. Phone the [COVID-19 Testing Centre at 867-393-3083](#) or [your local health centre to book a test](#).

**If you do not get your child tested: If their symptoms go away sooner than 10 days without testing, self-isolation is still recommended unless your healthcare provider tells you otherwise.**

**Exceptions:** If your child is throwing up or has diarrhea, keep them at home until 24 hours after their symptoms have gone away. If their runny nose or nasal congestion lasts longer than 24 hours, is mild and not getting worse, and the child is otherwise well, they may return to school. You do not need a written note from your health care provider for your child to return to school and regular activities.



## COVID-19 symptoms and testing: Can your child go to school or return to regular activities?

This guidance is for children 6 years and older who have completed a COVID-19 immunization series 14 days before they show any symptoms.

This guidance does not apply if your child is severely immunocompromised or has a complex medical history

Talk to your child every day to see if they have any new or worsening symptoms.

COVID-19 is a vaccine preventable disease. People who have received the vaccination are less likely to become sick from the COVID-19 virus.



### RED symptoms

- Cough
- Fever or chills
- Loss of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

### YELLOW symptoms

- Headache
- Runny nose or congestion
- Sore throat
- Acute or intense fatigue
- Generalized muscle aches (not related to physical exertion)
- Significant loss of appetite
- Nausea or vomiting

### Your child has NO symptoms

Your child can go to school and return to regular activities.

Continue to encourage them to follow the [Safe 6](#).

If your child has **one or more RED** symptoms, **get your child tested**.

If you have ANY symptoms and are part of a cluster or notification asking you to self-monitor, testing is strongly recommended for any symptom listed.

Your child should self-isolate and cannot attend school or take part in regular activities until they've been tested and the result is negative. Phone the [COVID-19 Testing Centre at 867-393-3083 or your local health centre to book a test](#).

**If you do not get your child tested: If their symptoms go away sooner than 10 days without testing, self-isolation is still recommended unless your healthcare provider tells you otherwise.**

When your child has **one or more YELLOW** symptoms and is not part of a cluster or notification, your child can return to regular activities and can return to school once the symptom goes away.

**Exceptions:** If your child is throwing up or has diarrhea, keep them at home until 24 hours after symptoms have gone away. You do not need a written note from your health care provider for your child to return to school and regular activities.

## COVID-19 symptoms and testing: Can your child go to school or return to regular activities?

This guidance is for children aged 6 months to 5 years old.

This guidance does not apply if your child is severely immunocompromised or has a complex medical history.

**Observe and talk to your child every day to see if they have any new or worsening symptoms.**

COVID-19 is vaccine preventable disease, but the vaccine is not yet available for younger children. Individuals who are not vaccinated are more likely to become sick if infected with the COVID-19 virus.

The best way to protect children who cannot be immunized yet is to have the adults and caregivers around them fully immunized. Find out about the COVID-19 guidelines for Yukon licenced child care centres, school age programs and family day homes.



### RED symptoms

- Cough
- Fever or chills
- Loss of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

### YELLOW symptoms

- Headache
- Runny nose or congestion
- Sore throat
- Nausea/vomiting or diarrhea
- Fatigue, or just unwell (acute/intense fatigue, generalized muscle aches not related to physical exertion, significant loss of appetite)

### Your child has NO symptoms

Your child can go to school and return to regular activities.

Continue to encourage them to follow the [Safe 6](#).

If your child has **one or more RED or YELLOW** symptoms, **get your child tested**.

Your child should self-isolate and cannot attend school or take part in regular activities until they've been tested and the result is negative. Phone the [COVID-19 Testing Centre at 867-393-3083](#) or [your local health centre to book a test](#).

**If you do not get your child tested: If their symptoms go away sooner than 10 days without testing, self-isolation is still recommended unless your healthcare provider tells you otherwise.**

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# September 2021







Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	From the Ground Up Start 		1	2	3	4
5	6 Labour Day NO CLASSES	7	8 Opening Liturgy (students only)	9	10 Soccer Fest (Grade 4 & 5) 	11
12	13	14	15 Earlybird Volleyball (grade 7) 	16	17 Terry Fox Run 	18
19	20 volleyball game 1	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Orange Shirt Week *From the Ground Up forms Due Volleyball Game 2	28	29	30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation NO CLASSES	1	2

Please note—this calendar is accurate at the time of publication. Dates/times/events are subject to change.

# October 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 volleyball game 3	5	6 Thanksgiving Liturgy (students only)	7	8	9
10	11 Thanksgiving Day NO CLASSES	12	13	14 From the Ground Up - Pick Up Day 	15	16
17	18 volleyball game 4 	19	20	21	22 PD DAY NO CLASSES	23
24/31	25 volleyball game 5 Picture Day 	26 Picture Day 	27	28	29 Checklists (progress reports) go home	30

**\*\* Parent—Teacher Interviews on Nov.1— NO CLASSES**

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HOLY FAMILY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

55 Wann Road  
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5X4

Tel: 867-667-3500

Fax: 867-667-3502

Principal: Maria Gray

V/Principal: Patti Oxford

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Because we are located in an earthquake-prone area and other emergencies can occur which require us to evacuate the school, we want to remind you that, in the case of such an event occurring, the following procedures will be followed:

\* No student will be dismissed from school unless a parent or designated guardian/emergency contact comes for him/her; no student will be allowed to walk or bike home alone.

\* No child will be allowed to leave with another person, even a relative or babysitter, unless we have written or verbal permission to that effect or that particular person is listed as the student's emergency contact. With this in mind, if your child's information is not up-to-date, please call the office as soon as possible.

\* All parents or designated guardians who come for students **must have them signed out at the office or at the alternate Student Release Station.** Signs will be posted at the entrance to the school yard if an alternate location is being used.

**In case we need to evacuate Holy Family Elementary in an emergency, our alternate gathering place is the:**

***Church of the Northern Apostles at 45 Boxwood Crescent.***

\* We are prepared to care for children in the event of a critical situation, or if parents or guardians are not able to reach the school. We have a number of people with first aid certificates and we will be in communication with local emergency services. We do ask for your help in the following areas:

- **do turn your radio to *CBC (94.5) on the FM dial or CKRW (610) on the AM dial or CKRW (96.1) on the FM dial, CHON FM (98.1) or New Life (100.7) on the FM dial.* Information and directions will be given over the radio.**

- **please do not call the school**; we must have the lines open for emergency calls.

following an earthquake or other city-wide emergency, do not immediately drive to the school. Streets and access to our school may be cluttered with debris and the school access route and street entrance areas must remain clear for emergency vehicles.

**\*\*\* Please put this letter in a safe place so you may refer to it if necessary.**